

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



CITY HALL
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
TEL:(201) 547-5200
FAX:(201) 547-4288

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2008

Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

Mayor Healy Presents His Visioning Plan for Journal Square's Revitalization

***Plan Incorporates Public Input, Utilizes Smart Growth and Sustainability Principles
and Will be the Groundwork for the Rebirth of the City's Historic Center***

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy presented his **Vision for Journal Square** today, a bold and dramatic plan that will create a **national icon of sustainable mixed-use urban design** that is pedestrian and transit-oriented with great streets, parks and neighborhoods containing a diversity of people, businesses and culture.

The **multi-billion dollar** visioning plan will include between **10,000 and 15,000 units of new housing** and **millions of square feet of retail and commercial** space on a **244 acre site** in what is the geographic heart of the city – Journal Square. It will create hundreds of new construction jobs, as well as permanent jobs in the commercial and retail sectors.

For the past several decades, Journal Square has been in a state of decline and the Healy administration has begun the process of turning things around and restoring Journal Square to its former prominence as the commercial and entertainment center of the city.

“We have had a major renaissance in Jersey City on our eastern waterfront, the Hudson River, but it has been my priority to see that this rising tide lifts all boats,” said **Mayor Healy**. “In my quest to make Jersey City greater, I have requested that this vision for Journal Square incorporate my principles of making Jersey City greener, safer, more affordable and more prosperous.”

Earlier this year, Mayor Healy and the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency commissioned **A. Neleson Associates, Inc.** and **Dean Marchetto Architects, P.C.** to develop this vision plan based on the goals of the administration and the interests of the business and residential community that have a current or future stake in Journal Square.

(more)

(2)

A visioning meeting was held with the major property owners in the area during the summer, followed up by a public meeting with residents. The vision presented today is a combination of the results of those meetings.

“We will bring this vision back to the business and residential property owners and the Journal Square community at large to ensure that we have incorporated what they believe is critical for the rebirth of Journal Square,” **Mayor Healy** added. “By working together, we have, and will continue to develop, a viable plan based upon this vision for the revitalization of our city’s center.”

Following these meetings, a plan will be presented to the Planning Board for approval and then to the City Council for adoption as the redevelopment plan for the Journal Square area.

“Other administrations have talked about Journal Square, but we today are laying the ground work for what will be a national model of urban design,” said **Mayor Healy**. “Journal Square is already a transit hub, and this plan incorporates Smart Growth principles and sustainability principles by building our city around an existing transportation center.”

Journal Square is home to the Port Authority’s Journal Square PATH station and bus terminal, where 8 million commuters utilize PATH and thousands more utilize bus transportation annually.

Additionally, the Mayor’s vision plan calls for the creation of **9 acres of new park space** within the Journal Square study area, creating one of the **largest urban greenways** in the Northeast.

“A major component of this vision plan is adding green space and pedestrian-friendly boulevards and plazas,” said **Mayor Healy**. “Journal Square will return as the people’s square and we will have a destination where we can all afford to safely live, work, recreate and shop.”

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699. /////